

# COUNCIL

6 AUGUST 2023

## REPORT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

### A.2 EXECUTIVE DECISION(S) TAKEN AS A MATTER OF URGENCY

#### PART 1 – KEY INFORMATION

##### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To notify Members of recent Executive Decision(s) taken in the circumstances set out in the Council's Constitution in:-

- (a) Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (Special Urgency); and/or
- (b) Rule 18(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules (Call-in and Urgency); and/or
- (c) Rule 6(b) of the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In accordance with the requirements of Rule 16.2 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules and/or Rule 18(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules and/or Rule 6(b) of the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules, this report notifies Members of recent Executive Decision(s) taken in the circumstances set out in Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules and/or Rule 18(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the contents of the report be NOTED.**

#### PART 2 – SUPPORTING INFORMATION

##### **BACKGROUND**

The "Special Urgency" procedure in Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules provides that where a key decision cannot be reasonably deferred to allow the procedure in Rule 14 (General Exception) of those procedure rules to be followed, it may still be taken with the agreement of the Chairman of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee, or failing him/her, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Council.

Rule 18(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules provides that the "call-in" procedure will not apply to a decision if the Chairman, or failing him/her the Vice-Chairman, of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee agrees both that the decision is reasonable in all its circumstances and that any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests.

## **DECISION(S) TAKEN AS A MATTER OF URGENCY**

### **Tendring District Council's formal response to the third statutory public and stakeholder consultation being carried out by National Grid on its proposed Norwich to Tilbury electricity power line connection project**

Earlier this month (July), the Housing and Planning Portfolio Holder, in view of the urgency of the issue concerned, and in accordance with Rule 18(i) of the Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules, sought and subsequently obtained the Chairman of the Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee's consent, that his decision relating to the submission of this Council's formal response to the third statutory public and stakeholder consultation being carried out by National Grid on its proposed Norwich to Tilbury electricity power line connection project, be exempted from the call-in procedure.

The Portfolio Holder for Housing and Planning's decision was as follows:-

*"To approve Tendring District Council's formal response to the third statutory public and stakeholder consultation being carried out by National Grid on its proposed Norwich to Tilbury electricity power line connection project."*

It was felt that any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would have seriously prejudiced the Council's and the public's interest for the following reason:-

*"The deadline for the submission of consultation responses is Friday 26th July 2024. Failure to meet that deadline could lead to this Council's core objections and proposed mitigations to this project not being properly taken into account."*

*The Planning Policy and Local Plan Committee debated and agreed the proposed response at its meeting held on 23rd July 2024 and so this matter has therefore been considered by Members from all political groups represented on the Council.*

*In addition, this formal response will be reported to the meeting of the full Council to be held on 6th August 2024 when Members will have the opportunity to discuss the response and decide whether this Council should submit any further representations to National Grid."*

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Chairman of the Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Councillor Steady)'s consent to allow the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Planning's decision to be exempt from call-in.

## **APPENDICES**

None